



National Yacht Club

Child Safeguarding Statement

Section 1- The National Yacht Club Dun Laoghaire,

Provides sailing activities and opportunities for young people through participation in club regattas, courses, regional events and through our national events.

Section 2 - Principles to safeguard children from harm.

The National Yacht Club, Dun Laoghaire is committed to safeguarding children and by working under the guidance of Irish Sailing Safeguarding Policies our staff, both volunteers and employed, working with our young people, throughout the club, seek to create a safe environment for young people to grow and develop within sport. The following set of principles are adhered to:

- **Importance of childhood** - The importance of childhood is understood and valued by everyone involved in our sport.
- **Needs of the child** - All children's sport experiences is guided by what is best for children. This means that adults have a basic understanding of the emotional, physical and personal needs of young people.
- **Integrity in relationships** - Adults interacting with children in sport are in a position of trust and influence. They should always ensure that children are treated with integrity and respect, and the self-esteem of young people is enhanced.
- **Fair Play**-All children's sport should be conducted in an atmosphere of fair play. The principles of fair play should always be emphasized, and organisers should give clear guidelines regarding acceptable standards of behaviour.
- **Quality atmosphere & ethos** - Children's sport should be conducted in a safe, positive and encouraging atmosphere.
- **Competition** - Competition is an essential element of sailing and is encouraged in an age-appropriate manner. A child-centered ethos will help to ensure that competition and specialization are kept in their appropriate place.
- **Equality** - All children are valued and treated in an equitable and fair manner regardless of ability, age, gender, religion, social and ethnic background or political persuasion.

Section 3 - Risk Assessment

This National Yacht Club' written Risk Assessment document indicates the areas of potential risk of harm, the likelihood of the risk occurring, and gives the required policy, guidance or process documents require to alleviate these risks. The list of risks identified and procedures to manage these risks are contained in the following categories:

Risk Identified	Procedure in place to manage risk identified
<p>Club and Coaching Practices</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Lack of coaching qualification. - Supervision issues. - Unauthorised photography & recording activities. - Behavioral Issues. - Lack of gender balance amongst coaches - No guidance for travelling & away trips. - Lack of adherence with misc. procedures in Safeguarding policy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Coach education policy/Recruitment policy. - Supervision policy/Coach education policy - Photography & Use of Images policy - Code of Conduct/ Safeguarding 1-2-3/ Complaints & Disciplinary policy. - Diversity Policy/ Supervision policy. - Travel/Away trip policy/ Child Safeguarding Training. - Safeguarding Policy/ Complaints & disciplinary policy
<p>Complaints & Discipline</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Lack of awareness of a Complaints & Disciplinary policy. - Difficulty in raising an issue by child & or parent. - Complaints not being dealt with seriously 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Complaints & Disciplinary procedure/policy/ Communications procedure. - Complaints & Disciplinary procedure/policy/ Communications procedure. - Complaints & Disciplinary procedure/policy.
<p>Reporting Procedures</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Lack of knowledge of organisational & statutory reporting procedures - No DLP appointed. - Concerns of abuse or harm not reported. - Not clear who VP should talk to or report to. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Reporting procedures/policy/ Coach Education policy/ Code of Conduct/Behaviour. - Reporting procedures/policy. - Reporting procedures/policy/ Child Safeguarding Training- Level 1-2-3 - Poster with names of CCO, DLP and Mandated person/Safeguarding Policy Document

<p>Use of Facilities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Unauthorised access to designated children's play & practice areas & to changing rooms, showers, toilets etc..... - Unauthorised exit from children's areas. - Photography, filming or recording in prohibited areas. - Missing or found child on site. - Children sharing facilities with adults e.g. dressing rooms, showers etc... 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Supervision policy/ Coach Education. - Supervision policy/ Coach Education. - Photography policy and use of devices in private zones. - Missing or found child policy. - Safeguarding policy.
<p>Recruitment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Recruitment of inappropriate people. - Lack of clarity on roles. - Unqualified or untrained people in role. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Recruitment policy. - Recruitment policy. - Recruitment policy.
<p>Communications</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Lack of awareness of 'risk of harm' with members and visitors. - No communication of Child Safeguarding Statement of Code of Behaviour to members of visitors. - Unauthorised photography & recording of activities. - Inappropriate use of social media & Communications by under 18's 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Child Safeguarding Statement/Training Policy. - Child Safeguarding Statement (display)/ Code of Conduct/ Coach Charter (distribute). - Photography & Use of Images policy - Communications policy/ Code of conduct

<p>General Risk of Harm</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Harm not being recognised. - Harm caused by: Child to Child. Coach to Child. Volunteer to Child. Member to Child. Visitor to Child. - General behavioural issues. - Issues of Bullying. - Vetting of staff/volunteers. - Issues of Online Safety 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Safeguarding policy/ Child Safeguarding Training Plan - Safeguarding policy/ Child Safeguarding Training Plan - Code of Conduct. - Anti-Bullying policy. - Recruitment policy/ Vetting policy. - Social Media/ Online Safety policy.
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This Risk Assessment was undertaken in June 2025

Alison Pigot,
Designated Children's Liaison Officer
National Yacht Club
Dun Laoghaire

Section 4 – Procedures

Our Child Safeguarding Statement has been developed in line with requirements under the Children First Act 2015. The Children First National Guidance, Tusla's Child Safeguarding: A Guide for Policy, Procedure & Practices and Sport Ireland's Safeguarding Guidance for Children & Young People in Sport.

In addition to our Risk Assessment document described above, there are further procedures that support our intention to safeguard children while they are availing of our activities.

The National Yacht Club has the following procedures in place as part of our Safeguarding Policies

- Procedures for the management of allegations of abuse misconduct by staff or volunteers against a child availing of our activities.
- Procedures for the safe recruitment of staff and volunteers to work with children in our activities.
- Procedures for access to child safeguarding training and information, including the identification of the occurrence of harm.
- Procedure for reporting of child protection or welfare concerns to Statutory Authorities.
- Procedure for maintaining a list of the persons in the relevant service who are mandated persons.

Please note that all procedures listed are available on request.

The Mandated Person for Irish Sailing is Luke Murphy and may be contacted at safeguarding@sailing.ie or by phone at (01)2710113

Section 5 - Implementation

We recognize that implementation is an ongoing process. Irish Sailing is committed to the implementation of this Child Safeguarding Statement and the procedures that support our intention to keep children safe from harm while availing of our activities.

Please note the following:

- That all staff have been furnished with a copy of this statement.
- This statement is available to parents/guardians, the Agency and members of the public on request.
- This statement will be displayed on our website at www.sailing.ie and on display in head office.

This Child Safeguarding Statement will be reviewed by 25th June 2025

Signed: 

Date: 25th June 2025

On behalf of the National Yacht Club

For queries on this Child Safeguarding Statement, please contact NYC Child Protection Officers

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